

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 18 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A power manager for controlling power consumption of ~~an electric circuit which includes~~ a plurality of circuit blocks controlled by a controller, comprising:

a status monitor arranged to monitor operating status of each circuit block;

an adder arranged to calculate the amount of power consumption ~~sum power~~ consumed by each circuit block in the operating state;

a comparator arranged to compare the amount of power consumption with a first limit value and a second limit value bigger than the first limit value; and

a generator arranged to generate a first interrupt signal so that a new circuit block cannot be activated in a case where the amount of power consumption exceeds the first limit value, and arranged to generate a second interrupt signal to shut down the controller in a case where the amount of power consumption exceeds the second limit value.

~~a notifier arranged to compare summed power with a predetermined threshold value and, if the summed power exceeds the threshold value, so notify the controller.~~

18. (Cancel)

19. (Currently Amended) The power manager according to claim 17, further comprising a timekeeper arranged to measure elapsed time, wherein if a predetermined period of time elapses without any change in the operating state of each block after said generator generated the first interrupt signal or the second interrupt signal ~~notifier performs notification~~, said generator generates the first interrupt signal or the second interrupt signal ~~notifier performs notification~~ again.

20. (Currently Amended) The power manager according to claim 17, wherein the first limit value and the second limit value are ~~threshold value~~ is rewritten by said controller.

21. (Currently Amended) A power managing method for controlling power consumption of ~~an electric circuit which includes~~ a plurality of circuit blocks controlled by a controller, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring operating status of each circuit block;

calculating the amount of summing power consumption consumed by each circuit block in the operating state;

comparing ~~summed~~ the amount of power consumption with a ~~predetermined threshold~~ first limit value and a second limit value bigger than the first limit value; and

generating a first interrupt signal so that a new circuit block cannot be activated in a case where the amount of power consumption exceeds the first limit value;
and

generating a second interrupt signal to shut down the controller in a case where the amount of power consumption exceeds the second limit value ~~notifying the controller if the summed power exceeds the threshold value.~~

22. (Cancel)

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, further comprising a step of measuring elapsed time, wherein if a predetermined period of time elapses without any change in the operating state of each block after the first interrupt signal or the second interrupt signal is generated ~~the notification is performed in said notifying step, the first interrupt signal or the second interrupt signal is generated~~ ~~the notification is performed~~ again.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the first limit value and the second limit value are ~~threshold value~~ is rewritten by said controller.